

## LITERARY NOTES.

M. Saintsbury is editing Fielding's novels for the new edition, which is to be brought out in shape under form with the recent new editions of the Austen and Bronte' novels.

Dr. Arthur Brooks's magazine paper on his brother, Phillips Brooks, is to be republished in the Harpers' "Black and White Series." Of the three accompanying portraits one, heretofore unpublished, is from a photograph taken when Phillips Brooks was a young man.

For thirty-three years Herbert Spencer has been at work upon his "System of Synthetic Philosophy," and his penultimate section of sociology has still to be written. The final section has appeared, but as Mr. Spencer's health is not strong it is not certain that the work will ever be completed.

A long and ambitious work, to be called "The Planning Millions of Men," is on the Harper press. Edward Fuller, a New England writer, is its author.

Arthur Hallam's essay of 1831 on "Some of the Characteristics of Modern Poetry, and on the Lyrical Poems of Alfred Tennyson" is to be reprinted in the forthcoming volume of "Arthur Henry Hallam's Poetical Remains." Some of the poems to be included in the book are addressed to Alfred, Charles and Emily Tennyson.

"English Poets of the Seventeenth Century, from Donne to Dryden," is the title of a volume in course of preparation by Professor L. D. R. Briggs, of Harvard.

That there are men of whom the native intelligence is slightly deteriorated by every book they swallow is the opinion of a "Spectator" essayist—an opinion shared, he believes, by the late Lord Lytton. He declares that there have been fools who want of intelligence were drawn almost exclusively to reading, and he adds that he could himself name two distinctly intelligent men whose intelligence was seriously injured by getting particular books "on the brain." They did not merely gain nothing from the books; they lost much, a result which experts in philanthropy tell us is by no means unknown among reading artisans. Some book masters them, and the power of thinking they originally possessed seems to dwindle away. Mme. d'Arblay's case is mentioned by the writer as an example of the evil effects of reading. "She not only wrote better before she had read much," he says, "but she thought better, and—though we cannot say so inhuman as to suggest the experiment—nobody who will read her last novel, 'The Wanderer,' through will, we think, doubt that it was reading which had killed her intelligence." Here he adds a few sentences which have much truth, if they are not wholly true:

Certainly there are plenty of people, men and women, who are exceedingly intelligent—and this not in any limited direction—who never read, who have nothing about them that suggests the study of books, the most appropriate addition to their brightness. They have observed, they have thought and they can talk. They observe as a rule much more clearly than the readers, who are either too busily occupied to be really interested; there is no other word—and they think, when they think in this more original way, than as that word has now a conventional meaning, in a way which is best explained by the India Rubber company—of most." These thoughts, poor or perfect, are at least their own, and are strong thoughts. They lack width usually, though not always, for interests with readers, number of them, and have the habit of a certain directness and tenacity as to the point at issue. They are apt, too, to have humor, the incongruity of things striking them even more than they strike readers—how they turn up here and there, independently of the word kind, which is derived rather indefinitely by the word "rasciness," that is flavor, the trace of the onion which animates the salad. In talking it is evident that they are not interested in the details of their life, in presence of persons whose knowledge of books they dread, or because they belong to the classes or races for there are both whom the privilege of talking easily has not been given. There are, however, some who have read and talk excellently well—there were scores of them in France just before the Revolution—and men who talk as only chiefs of professions can—a specialty, business, high school and classical courses.

H. EATH AT HEMSTEAD (L. L.) INSTITUTE—No. sixtieth among 20 boys since opened. No physician needed. Summer school July and August. 2000 feet.

Mr. W. B. Yeats is preparing an anthology of Irish ballads for the forthcoming series of the "Literary of Ireland." The first book of the series to be issued will be Thomas Davis's unpublished work, "The Patriotic Parliament of 1801."

One of the pieces of fiction in a forthcoming "Harper" has been contributed by a colored woman, the wife of a negro preacher in South Carolina.

The late John Addington Symonds's translation of the Mimes of Herodotus—the first complete one to be published in English—is to be added to Mr. Symonds's new edition of his "Greek Poets." He finished this edition just before his death.

Mr. Robert Grant is still harping on Benet's the married man. He has been writing for "Sheridan" a serial which he calls "The Opinions of a Married Philosopher."

There have been some references to Mr. Kipling's Imperial Institute as poor. It is understood that the author presented it as a free gift to "The English Illustrated Magazine" wherein it was printed.

The latest art journal founded in London is an illustrated monthly of about forty pages, which has been launched under the editorship of Mr. George White. The new periodical is called "The Studio" and is published at sixpence, thus aiming to meet the wants of art students and craftsmen for whom the other English magazines of similar scope are too expensive. The first number promises that the venture will be a success, not only in the good quality of the paper, type, line and half-tone illustrations, but in the nature of the articles and of the works chosen for reproduction. A series of papers on arts as craftsmen is opened by an account of Sir Frederick Leighton's work as a modeller in clay; and among the articles which follow this such topics of present interest as brocades, book-plates, black and white drawings and furniture are treated. There are copious notes on current exhibitions and new artistic publications; a calendar on the last page gives the news of the galleries in compact and handy form; and some useful prize competitions for art students are announced. The journal is up to date in its sympathies and its methods. The text throughout reflects the advanced and wideawake ideas of the younger element in English art, as handled by an editor with soundness and independence of taste.

Mrs. Platt's poems referring to Ireland are to be published in London in a volume to be entitled "An Enchanted Castle and Other Poems: Pictures, Poetry and Prose in Ireland."

Professor Georg Ebers's autobiography is coming from the Appleton press under the title of "The Story of My Life."

New Publications

SCRIBNER'S MAGAZINE

FOR JUNE,

READY AT 11 O'CLOCK TO-DAY.

THE OPINIONS OF A PHILOSOPHER. By Robert Grant. (A Sequel to "The Reflections of a Marital Man.") Illustrated. (To be continued.)

LIFE IN A LOGGING CAMP. By Arthur Hill. (Second article on "Men's Occupations.") Illustrated.

THE FURS THAT WE SEE. By Ernest E. Thompson. Illustrations by the author.

THE HAUNT OF THE PLATYPUS. By Sidney Dickson. Illustrated.

AN ARTIST IN JAPAN. By Robert Blum. (Concluding paper.) Illustrations by the author.

UNDER COVER OF THE DARKNESS. A story. By T. R. SELVINS.

THE ONE I KNEW THE BEST OF ALL. By Francis Hodgson Burnett. (Conclusion.)

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